



## Living Lakes Canada News Stream

July 2018

"Take care of water at source, not just at tap."

~ Chief Judy Wilson, Canadian Water Summit  
(Vancouver, June 2018)

Visit our new website!



HOME **PROJECTS** ABOUT US NEWS & EVENTS GET INVOLVED 🔍

All Regions...

All Water Bodies...

All Collaborators...

All Types of Work...



### KOOTENAY LAKE PARTNERSHIP

Fisheries and Oceans Canada completed a Foreshore Inventory and Mapping project on the West Arm of Kootenay Lake in 2004, and again in 2008. Within that timeframe, the level of impact



### COLUMBIA BASIN WATER DATA HUB AND FRAMEWORK

In November 2017, Living Lakes Canada co-hosted the Cracking the Code in 3D: Water Data Hub and Monitoring Framework conference to envision a



### BRILLIANT HEADPOND STEWARDSHIP COLLABORATIVE

For the past 74 years, the Brilliant Headpond has been managed for hydroelectric generation purposes and has been referred to as an industrial

Thanks to the Nelson Design Collective, our website soft launch has a vibrant new look, beautifully featuring the water stewardship work done by our Living Lakes Canada team. You will find pictures and full profiles of the Living Lakes Canada extended team and advisors, updated projects and events, an easy-to-navigate project library and sorting tool, new "Get Involved" and

“Donate Today” sections, and more. We hope you'll take the time to explore the site and discover more about our programs, our team, our network and our vision.

[LivingLakesCanada.ca](http://LivingLakesCanada.ca)

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## Successful Nelson CABIN training



We all want healthy streams. Streams are living systems that affect the water we drink, the food we eat, the well-being of fish and wildlife, and the economy through fishing and other outdoor recreation.

In Canada, a national protocol called CABIN (Canadian Aquatic Biomonitoring Network) has been established that collects benthic macroinvertebrates and uses their counts as an indicator of a water body's health.

Living Lakes Canada was the first Canadian NGO trained by Environment and Climate Change Canada to deliver CABIN field practicums. We train community groups, professionals, industry and First Nation communities in the CABIN methodology, which is the most widely used national protocol to assess the health of streams.

**On July 17-18, Living Lakes Canada delivered a CABIN training workshop in the Nelson area. Registration was at full capacity and the participants from industry, academia, consulting firms and NGOs learned how to create and carry out their own biomonitoring program to assess the health of their surrounding freshwater ecosystems.**

“Community-based water monitoring (CBM) is emerging across Canada as an untapped potential to help solve pressing challenges associated with watershed management,” said Living Lakes Canada Water Stewardship Lead Raegan Mallinson. “Living Lakes Canada trains citizen scientists in community-based monitoring because citizens are concerned and want to ensure that their lakes, rivers, wetlands and watersheds remain healthy and that their communities are climate resilient. They want to be involved in the decisions that affect their local watersheds including source water protection, drinking water quality, resource development and sustainable water and land use.”

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## Preserving the Kootenay Lake shoreline



# Open House

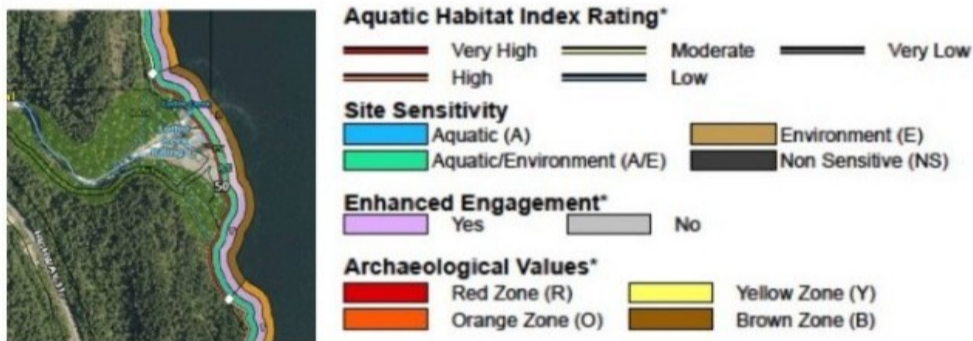
Kootenay Lake  
Shoreline Guidance Document

The Kootenay Lake Partnership would like to invite residents of Kootenay Lake to learn about the *Kootenay Lake Shoreline Guidance Document*, which aims to preserve important ecological, archaeological and Ktunaxa Nation cultural values on Kootenay Lake.

## Balfour Hall

Charles St., Balfour  
Wednesday, July 25th  
6:30pm to 8:30pm

**Presentation at 7:00pm**



The Kootenay Lake Partnership, which is chaired by Living Lakes Canada, invited Kootenay Lake residents to attend a public open house on Wednesday, July 25 at the Balfour Community Hall. This open house was a big success, with roughly 55 people in attendance. It provided the public with an opportunity to learn more about the Kootenay Lake Shoreline Guidance Document, which is the result of a comprehensive Sensitive Habitat Inventory Mapping Project that involved an inventory and assessment of ecological, archaeological and Ktunaxa cultural values along the shoreline of Kootenay Lake.

The Shoreline Guidance Document is intended to achieve key goals, such as helping assist in the recovery of fish habitat values lost to past development impacts, and the ongoing protection of archaeologically significant areas.

“The Kootenay Lake Partnership believes that it is possible and desirable to manage our watersheds and their natural surroundings in a sustainable manner and that sustainable management is the shared responsibility of all stakeholders; including proponents, professionals, all levels of government and community members,” said Heather Leschied, Living Lakes Canada Operations Manager and Chair of the Kootenay Lake Partnership.

[Visit the Kootenay Lake Partnership website to learn more.](#)

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## Kootenay lakes sampled in LakePulse



LakePulse is a 5-year program funded by NSERC (the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada) to create the first national assessment of lake health by 2021.

Over 3 summers, they are sampling 680 lakes that cover a range of lake sizes and human impact classes. The field teams are equipped with a truck, boat and mobile lab to sample each lake for over 100 variables (sampling takes a full day at each lake), which range from standard measurements to state-of-the-art indicators for emerging contaminants and genomics research. [This data is used in LakePulse for 10 main research projects.](#)

They are a scientific program that also collaborates with government partners and NGOs - including Living Lakes Canada - to help their research reach a wider audience since LakePulse also has a mission to make their information accessible and meaningful to Canadians. This summer, field crews will sample about 31 lakes in B.C. In 2019, Lake Pulse will return to BC to sample another 155 lakes.

Watch for Lake Pulse researchers out on Kootenay area lakes this summer!

- Slocan Lake - completed July 3rd
- Whiteswan Lake - planned for August 6th
- Wasa Lake - planned for August 7th
- Tie Lake - planned for August 9th
- Surveyors Lake - planned for August 10th

[Visit the LakePulse website to learn more.](#)

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## Green Shores Level 1 on August 11



Join Living Lakes Canada partner, the Lake Windermere Ambassadors, for their free, one-day Green Shores Level 1 workshop on Lake Windermere in Invermere.

Green Shores provides ecological friendly solutions for shoreline development and helps protect waterfront properties while also protecting and restoring habitats. The content is of interest to elected officials, landowners, municipal staff, conservation organizations, real estate agents, and others who have a general interest in shoreline ecosystem protection. Green Shores is an initiative of the Stewardship Centre of BC.

[Visit the Facebook event page for details and how to register.](#)

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## CABIN & Environmental DNA



This August, Living Lakes Canada and partners World Wildlife Fund-Canada (WWF-Canada), Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and the University of Guelph are, for the second season, field testing the new environmental DNA (eDNA) approach to the nationally standardized protocol of CABIN.

eDNA is an emerging tool for monitoring present biodiversity. It uses gene sequencing linked to DNA/RNA barcode libraries to allow for faster, more complete profiles of biodiversity content from very small samples. Internationally, countries like Australia, the EU and Scotland are exploring working with eDNA. This is a made-in-Canada technology and now has the opportunity to move beyond proof of concept to demonstrating the possible. This will make benthic invertebrate analysis faster, more accurate and more affordable for community groups water quality monitoring initiatives.

We will build on last year's pilot project that took place on the Sunshine Coast, BC and in Ottawa, ON, expanding this national initiative that links citizen science with benthic data deficiencies to build community capacity and fill knowledge gaps. The project will engage First Nation communities to include Indigenous Knowledge and language, building it into the field training and data collection methods to evolve the ECCC CABIN protocol.

For the 2018 field season, we will be in the Liard watershed in northeastern B.C. (Canada's ninth largest watershed home to Canada's longest wild river!) in August working in partnership with the Kaska Dena Nation and their Guardian Program (called the Dene Nan Yedah Program) to establish a biomonitoring program and host a two-day Program Manager/Field Tech CABIN field practicum.

We will then head down the Skeena watershed, where we will host another 2-day CABIN field practicum for assessing freshwater ecosystem health with 9 different First Nation communities from the area.

See our next newsletter for "from the field" coverage.

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## Living Waters Rally 2018



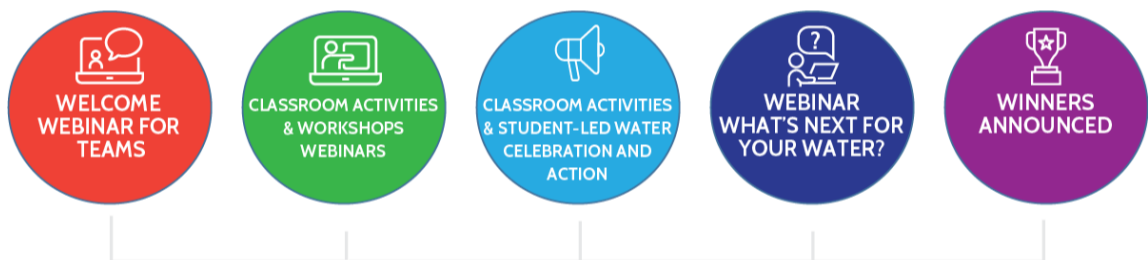
Living Lakes Canada is excited to be participating in the Living Waters Rally 2018 that the Freshwater Alliance is bringing to Moncton, New Brunswick October 1-3. We will be joining freshwater defenders from across Canada's freshwater community to:

- Explore reconciliation and water;
- Strategize on critical freshwater threats;
- Celebrate our biggest successes and learn from our challenges; and
- Advance our skills in supporting civic engagement for freshwater health.

[Visit the LWR18 event page.](#)

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## The Great Waters Challenge in B.C.



Waterlution is re-launching The Great Waters Challenge this fall in B.C. for school teams and groups from October 15 to December 21, 2018. The Great Waters Challenge raises the awareness and capacity of youth to better steward and protect our waters. School clubs, groups and classes are encouraged to sign up as teams.

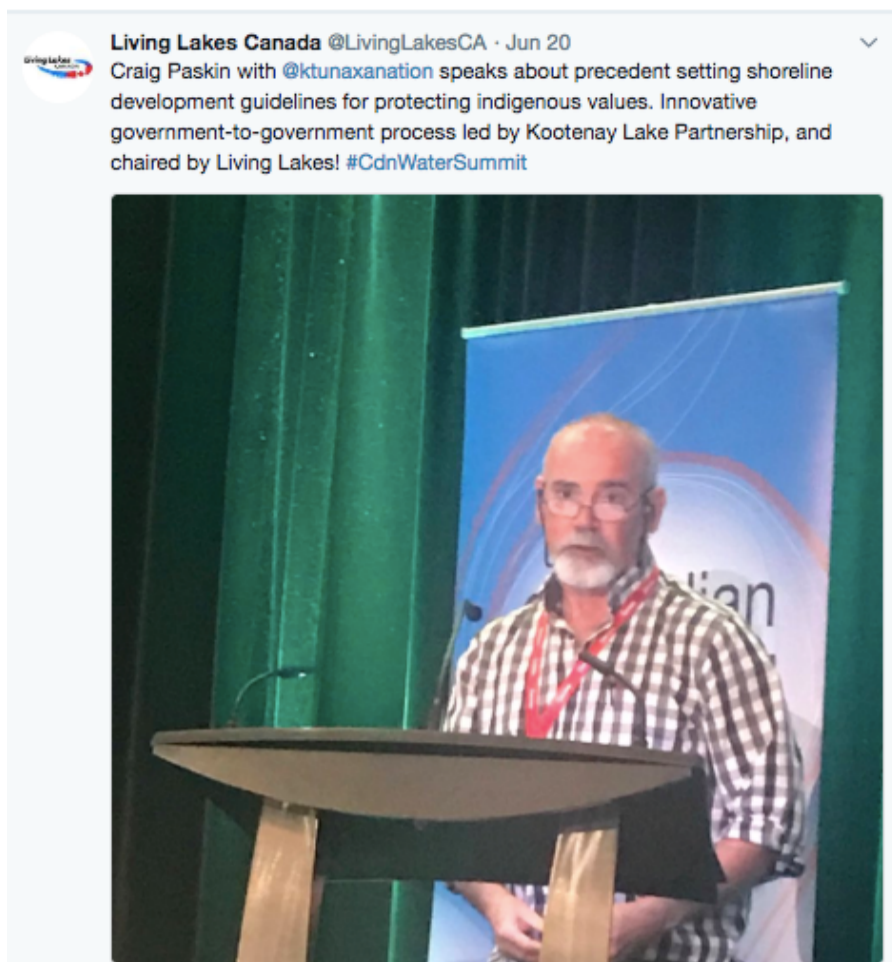
Young Canadians (Grades 3-12 and youth groups such as scouts, girl guides or eco-clubs for age 8-18) will be guided to uncover and celebrate water stories in their communities. These stories will be showcased online, to make visible how water connects us all across our communities. The Waterlution team and its British Columbian Youth Advisory Board will support the B.C. participants throughout the challenge with activities, workshops and webinars to elevate their skillset and spark their curiosity.

A welcome webinar for teams will kick off the challenge on October 15, with activities continuing through to December and winners announced in January 2019.

[Visit The Great Waters Challenge website to sign up.](#)

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## Water Summit features Kootenay Lake



Living Lakes Canada participated in the 9th annual Canadian Water Summit, held in Vancouver June 20-22 with a focus on the “Blue Economy”, an emerging concept encouraging better stewardship of water resources.

As part of its exploration of the theme “Knowledge to Practice—Applying Science, Policy, and Research to the Blue Economy”, this year’s three-day Summit featured an eye-opening session on innovation in water governance across jurisdictional and cultural boundaries that included the Kootenay Lake Partnership and Ktunaxa First Nation with support from Living Lakes Canada.

“The Kootenay Lake Partnership recently developed precedent setting shoreline development guidelines for Kootenay Lake,” said Heather Leschied of Living Lakes Canada, who also serves as Chair of the Kootenay Lake Partnership. She went on to note, “this multi-agency partnership took an innovative approach to a Federal protocol for mapping and classifying sensitive shoreline habitats, by integrating ecological, archaeological and Ktunaxa Nation cultural values.”

Craig Paskin, Manager of Policy and Planning with the Ktunaxa Nation Council’s Lands and Resource Agency, presented on behalf of the Ktunaxa Nation and Kootenay Lake Partnership. Craig highlighted the efforts of the Kootenay Lake Partnership to support collaborative management approaches for a productive and healthy Kootenay Lake ecosystem. Kootenay Lake is the first project of its kind aimed at protecting and restoring important fish and wildlife habitats, while ensuring archaeological values and Ktunaxa cultural values are considered and protected during the planning and permit application process.

[For live tweets from the Summit, visit our Twitter account.](#)

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## Atlantic Water Network launched



Living Lakes Canada Executive Director Kat Hartwig travelled to Halifax, NS in June to attend the launch of the Atlantic DataStream - the open source data hub for the Atlantic Water Network - and present on the initiative currently underway to develop a water monitoring framework and an open source [Water Data Hub](#) for the Columbia Basin.

AWN's mission is to build capacity among stewardship and watershed organizations by providing access to water monitoring and conservation resources such as standardized training via WET-Pro water monitoring kits, a secure and open access data hub ([Atlantic DataStream](#)), and the free use of an Environmental Monitoring Equipment Bank.

Kat also introduced the national round-table initiative on CBWM (community-based water monitoring) that is being organized by Living Lakes Canada, the Gordon Foundation and WWF Canada in partnership with ECCC to facilitate dialogue between engaged CBWM groups regarding best practices, standardization of protocols, Indigenous Knowledge, data housing, and access to inform policy at all levels.

[Visit the Atlantic Water Network website to learn more.](#)

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## Water Monitoring in the Basin



### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN WATERSHED GOVERNANCE:**

Case Studies and Insights from the Upper Columbia River Basin

June 1, 2018



POLUS Project on Ecological Governance  
[watersustainabilityproject](#)



If you're involved in watershed stewardship and management at any level in the Columbia Basin —as a community volunteer, a non-profit volunteer, a First Nation representative, or local



government official—a new report is available highlighting current watershed governance issues, opportunities and successes in the Basin.

Produced by Living Lakes Canada, Columbia Basin Trust and the University of Victoria's POLIS Water Sustainability Project and released in June, *Community Engagement in Watershed Governance: Case Studies and Insights From the Upper Columbia River Basin* highlights how community-based organizations in the Basin are supporting watershed health. The report also offers information about water governance and B.C.'s Water Sustainability Act.

[Access an online copy of the report here.](#)

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## Groundwater Monitoring Program update



Living Lakes Canada's Groundwater Monitoring Program was a featured presentation at the Wings Over the Rockies festival in May. The program is currently monitoring 10 priority aquifers in the Columbia Basin. Water level data acquired through program is analyzed by a team of experts and shared with stakeholders to support informed decision making for groundwater use, stewardship, and climate adaptation planning.

[Read about our program on the Ground Water Canada website.](#)

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## Living Lakes International turns 20

Overview about all Lakes and Wetlands of the Living Lakes Network



On June 11, 2018, the international Living Lakes Network celebrated its 20th anniversary. The network was launched 20 years ago today at a press conference in Los Angeles, USA by the four founding members: Lake Constance (Germany, Switzerland, Austria), Mono Lake (USA), Lake St. Lucia (South Africa), and Lake Biwa (Japan). Global Nature Fund is the coordinator of this vivid partnership that currently consists of 109 member lakes, represented by 126 organizations in 54 countries.

In 2010, Wildsight, with the participation of the Global Nature Fund and the Lake Winnipeg Foundation, established Living Lakes Canada to unite lake associations and water stewardship groups throughout Canada. Living Lakes Canada is proud to be a part of Living Lakes International's global network of non-government associations that share the mission to enhance the protection, restoration and rehabilitation of lakes, rivers, wetlands and watersheds throughout the world.

2018 is also a noteworthy year for Living Lakes International as one of its member organizations - Fundación Global Nature, Spain – was announced the winner of the [2018 Ramsar Convention Award for Wetland Wise Use](#). The award acknowledges contributions to the long-term sustainable use of wetlands.

[Learn more about Living Lakes International here.](#)

**Contact LLC with any questions or to learn more.  
We look forward to hearing from you!**



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